Sale of HPCL and BPCL Scrips

*278. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Rs. 500 crore milked on sale of HPCL and BPCL Scrips", which appeared in the Deccan Chronicle, dated the 5th October, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether any inquiry has been instituted into the whole transaction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Soon after the news report first appeared, Government requested SEBI to conduct a comprehensive investigation in the matter.

Schemes for SCs/STs and weaker sections in Uttar Pradesh

*279. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes being formulated and implemented by Government for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, backward classes and weaker sections of the society in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the details of amount granted for the same under these schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment formulates and implements welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes, backward classes and weaker sections and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for Scheduled Tribes throughout the country. During the last three years details of amount granted under different welfare schemes in Uttar Pradesh are given in the Statement.